

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the applications:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An I.V. flush syringe assembly comprising:

a barrel having an inside surface including a recess and defining a chamber for retaining fluid, an open proximal end and a distal end including a distal wall with an elongate tip extending distally therefrom having a passageway therethrough in fluid communication with said chamber;

a plunger including an elongate body portion having a proximal end, a distal end and a flexible stopper slidably positioned in fluid-tight engagement with said inside surface of said barrel for drawing fluid into and driving fluid out of said chamber by movement of said stopper relative to said barrel, said stopper having an outwardly projecting rib and said elongate body portion extending outwardly from said open proximal end of said barrel; ~~and~~

~~anti-reflux means for~~ wherein said recess receives said rib when said stopper is in contact with said distal wall thereby holding said stopper in a partially deflected position to prevent reflux of the fluid back into the chamber after ~~when~~ fluid has been delivered from said chamber ~~and said stopper is in contact with said distal wall.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The syringe assembly of claim [2] 1 wherein said rib is an annular rib and said recess is an annular recess.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said anti-reflux means includes~~ An I.V. flush syringe assembly comprising:

a barrel having an inside surface defining a chamber for retaining fluid, an open proximal end and a distal end including a distal wall with an elongate tip extending distally therefrom having a passageway therethrough in fluid communication with said chamber, said inside surface further including a contact area ~~on said inside surface of said barrel~~ at the distal end of said barrel,

a plunger including an elongate body portion having a proximal end, a distal end and a flexible stopper slidably positioned in fluid-tight engagement with said inside surface of said barrel for drawing fluid into and driving fluid out of said chamber by movement of said stopper relative to said barrel, said elongate body portion extending outwardly from said open proximal end of said barrel;

wherein, said contact area ~~having~~ has a higher coefficient of friction than said inside surface outside of said contact area for engaging said stopper when said stopper is in contact with said distal wall

of said barrel for holding said stopper in a partially deflected position to prevent reflux of the fluid back into the chamber after fluid has been delivered from said chamber.

5. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 4 wherein said contact area includes a plurality of annular deformations.

6. (Original) The syringe of claim 5 wherein said annular deformations are annular projections on said inside surface of said barrel.

7. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 1 including flush solution in said chamber.

8. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 7 further including a tip cap releasably connected to said tip of said syringe barrel for sealing said passageway.

9. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 7 wherein said flush solution is selected from the group consisting of saline flush solution and heparin lock flush solution.

10. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 1 further comprising a needle assembly including a cannula having a proximal end, a distal end and a lumen therethrough, and a hub having an open proximal end containing a cavity and a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said cavity, said needle assembly being removably attached to said tip of said barrel through engagement of said tip to said cavity so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said chamber.

11. (Original) The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said stopper is made from material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, natural rubber, synthetic rubber and combinations thereof.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) The syringe assembly of claim 4 including flush solution in said chamber.
19. (New) The syringe assembly of claim 18 further including a tip cap releasably connected to said tip of said syringe barrel for sealing said passageway.
20. (New) The syringe assembly of claim 18 wherein said flush solution is selected from the group consisting of saline flush solution and heparin lock flush solution.
21. (New) The syringe assembly of claim 4 further comprising a needle assembly including a cannula having a proximal end, a distal end and a lumen therethrough, and a hub having an open proximal end containing a cavity and a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said cavity, said needle assembly being removably attached to said tip of said barrel through engagement of said tip to said cavity so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said chamber.
22. (New) The syringe assembly of claim 4 wherein said stopper is made from material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, natural rubber, synthetic rubber and combinations thereof.